**Import of edible oil**

429. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be plreased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to import 1.5 lakh tones of edible oil to meet the demands of people ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have announced the policy that State Government can import edible oil on their own ; and

(c) if so, whether Government are willing to give foreign exchange to the State Governments to make such imports.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) The Government have decided to import a quantity of 2.20 lakh MTs of Palmolein upto March '92 through STC. In addition State Governments have also been permitted to import 80,000 MTs of Palmolein during the current financial year.

(c) As per scheme of direct import by the State Governments, they are to import Palmolein by paying in Indian rupees which will be used to export 13 specified commodities. As such no outgo of free foreign exchange is involved.

**New Public Distribution System**

430. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be peased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that while Prime Minster has launched a new public d'stribution system with special emphasis on the 1700 blocks in identified backward areas, the PDS in various state like Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh is on the verge of collapse ; and

(b) if so, what corrective measures Government propose to take in this behalf ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) No Sir. Large quantities of commodities, such as wheat, rice,sugar, kerosene imported edible oils are distributed throughout the country at reasonable prices through the Public Distribution System (PDS). In an operaton of this magnitude, occasional dislocation due to local factors cannot be ruled out.

The strengthing of PDS is a continual process. State Administrations monitor the suppy and availabilty of essential commodities and undertake inspectons etc. to check malpraciices.

**Public Distribution System to combat rising prices**

431. SHRI JAGESH DESAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to distribute more essntial items through the public distribution system to combat the rising prices ;

(b) if so, the items proposed to be brought under Public Distribution System ;

(c) how and from where these iems are to be procured; and

(d) by when proposed scheme is likely to come into force ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d)

Key essential commodities namely, rice, wheat, levy sugar, imported eible oils, kerosene and soft coke are distributed under the Public Distribution System (PDS). The Central Government incurs substantial expenditure on account of subsidy on the distribution of PDS foodgrains. The State Governments and U.T. Administrations have been requested to include, for distribution, additional items of mass consumption such as tea, iodised salt and soaps using the PDS outlets etc. They procure their requirements of additional commodities themselves through National level organisations such as National Agricutural Co-operative Marketing Federation (NAFED), National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF), Tea Board or other Agencies. A number of States have started distributing some quantities of tea, toilet soap cakes and iodised salt etc.

**Scale of rice and wheat to ration card holders**

432. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scale for distribution of wheat and rice to ration card hoders has been fixed in Delhi and outside ;

(b) if so, the details thereof separtely for rice eaters and wheat eaters as on 15th Febrary, 1992 ;

(c) whether scale of distribution of rice and wheat to ration card holders in Delhi was higher upto November, 1991 ;

(d) if so, the details thereof separately for wheat eaters and rice eaters ;

(e) whether this scale of distribution of what and rice has been cut recently ;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(g) whether Government propose to abolish the system of distribution of wheat and rice through Public Distribution Sysem in view of scarcity of these items ; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thierefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The scale of entitlement of these items on the Public Distribution System (PDS) is decided by the State Governments and U.T. Administrations, and may very from State to State. In many States, scales of entitlements are fixed on a monthly basis at the district level.

(b) Scales of Wheat and Rice in force in the Union Territory of Delhi for Wheat and Rice eaters are as under ;

*Wheat Eater Food Cards*

Wheat : 10 Kg. per cereal unit per month.

Rice : 2.5 Kg. per cereal unit per month.

*Rice Eater Food Cards*

Wheat : 4.5 Kg. per cereal unit per month.

Rice : 8 Kg. per cereal uni per month.

Allocation of foodgrains received from the Central Government is distributed amongs the Fair Price Shops.

One adult is eligible for 2 cereal units
One child is eligible for 1 cereal unit.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

(g) and (h) No, Sir.